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BOROUGH OF ST. IVES (HUNTS)

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

MEDICAL OFFICER

OF HEALTH

AND

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR 1967

1967

Mayor:

COUNCILLOR H. WERBA

Public Health Staff

Medical Officer of Health:

J. CALDWELL
L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P. & S., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector:

J. G. REESON
F.I.A.S., M.I.P.H.E., C.S.I.B., M.R.S.H.

Meat Inspector:

A. WILKS
M.Inst.M., L.R.R.S.H.

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GENERAL STATISTICS

Area	2,326 acres
Rateable Value	£249,822
Value of Penny Rate	£1,036
Number of inhabited houses (approx.) ...	1,815
Population	5,170

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE BOROUGH OF SAINT IVES (HUNTS)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1967.

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Saint Ives (Hunts).

Your Worship and Members of the Council.

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the Borough for the year ended 31st December, 1967.

Vital Statistics

POPULATION — 5,170 The gradual increase in the population which has been occurring during the present decade continued in 1967, and 170 was added to the estimated mid-year figure.

BIRTHS Despite the fact that the birth rate shows a downward trend as compared with last year, the figure still remains above the average for England and Wales as a whole.

DEATHS The death rate shows a slight rise compared with the figure for last year and still remains slightly above the national average. Almost half the deaths occurred in persons over 75 years of age and more than three-quarters of the mortality took place in persons aged 65 years and over.

INFANT MORTALITY Two infants died during the year before reaching the age of 12 months thus giving an infant mortality rate of 18.2 per 1,000 live births. This is almost half the rate which applied in 1966 and is now virtually level with the figure for England and Wales as a whole.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE The outbreak of measles which began at the beginning of October 1966 continued unabated until June 1967. Approximately 300 children, aged 1-5 were affected during the outbreak, 240-plus in 1967, and the remainder in the previous year. With the proposed introduction of vaccination against measles it will be interesting to observe the effect on the incidence of this disease in the future.

Social Conditions

Housing As a result of purchasing sub-standard houses in the Green Street area, rehousing of displaced families has continued. It is expected that all the properties which it is prepared to purchase in this area will be in the Council's possession during 1968.

Plans for the aged persons' dwellings were finally completed during the year and tenders invited. Application will be made to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for approval and loan sanction and it is hoped that a start will be made with this project in 1968.

The Council are to be congratulated on devising a scheme of this nature which, when completed, will go a long way to meeting the needs, both socially and residentially, of many of the older citizens of the Borough.

In continuing the Council's house-building programme, construction of a further 24 houses for general housing needs was commenced and by the end of the year almost half were occupied.

Main Drainage The main drainage scheme continues to work satisfactorily but consideration will have to be given to the problem of sludge disposal at the Sewage Works.

Sewer extensions are planned to serve increased residential development in the Northern part of the Town and, due to the proposed enlargement of St. Ivo Secondary Modern School, it is hoped to connect all the school premises to the main drainage scheme and thus dispense with the small disposal works.

Abattoir Considerable extensions to the abattoir were completed by the end of June which has enabled increased through-put to be handled.

A full-time meat inspector has been appointed to cope with the additional work and 5 slaughter men are employed on a full-time basis.

In conclusion I should like to express my thanks to Mr. Reeson and all other members of the Department's staff for the assistance they have given me and for all the work they have done during the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES CALDWELL.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1967

Estimated mid-year population ... 5,170

Live Births

	Male	*Female*	*Total*
Legitimate	52	49	101
Illegitimate	6	3	9
Totals	58	52	110

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population ...	21.3
Birth rate corrected by comparability factor (.88)	18.7
Birth rate per 1,000 population (England and Wales)	17.2

Still Births

Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Totals	1	1	2

Still birth rate per 1,000 total live and still births	17.8
Still birth rate per 1,000 total live and still births (England and Wales) ...	14.8

Deaths

	29	26	55

Death rate per 1,000 estimated population ...	10.6
Death rate corrected by comparability factor (1.2)	12.7
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population (England and Wales)	11.2

Infant Mortality — Deaths of Infants under 1 year

Legitimate	—	2	2
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Totals	—	2	2

Infant mortality rate (Deaths of infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births)	18.2
Infant mortality rate (England and Wales) ...	18.3

TABLE CLASSIFYING DEATHS UNDER AGE GROUPS

Age	*Male*	*Female*	*Total*
Under 4 weeks	—	—	—
4 weeks and under 1 year	—	2	2
1 year and under 5 years	—	—	—
5 and under 15 years	—	—	—
15 and under 25 years	—	—	—
25 and under 35 years	1	2	3
35 and under 45 years	1	—	1
45 and under 55 years	1	—	1
55 and under 65 years	4	1	5
65 and under 75 years	10	7	17
75 years and over	12	14	26
Totals	29	26	55

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The following table indicates the trend in population, birth and death rates for the Borough over the past five years:-

	1963	**1964**	**1965**	**1966**	**1967**
Population	4,480	4,700	4,850	5,000	5,170
BIRTHS					
Total live births	122	123	114	124	110
Crude birth rate	27.2	26.2	23.5	24.8	21.3
Area comparability factor	.93	.93	.88	.88	.88
Corrected birth rate	25.3	24.3	20.7	21.8	18.7
Birth rate (England and Wales)	18.2	18.4	18.1	17.7	17.2
DEATHS					
Total deaths	71	35	46	52	55
Crude death rate	15.8	7.4	9.5	10.4	10.6
Area comparability factor	1.06	1.06	1.23	1.19	1.2
Corrected death rate	16.8	7.9	11.7	12.4	12.7
Death rate (England and Wales)	12.2	11.3	11.5	11.7	11.2

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

DURING 1967

	Total cases notified
Scarlet fever	—
Whooping cough	—
Diptheria	—
Measles	239
Acute pneumonia	—
Puerperal pyrexia	—
Typhoid fever	—
Paratyphoid fever	—
Erysipelas	—
Acute poliomyelitis	—
Infective hepatitis	—
Dysentery	2
Total	241

CAUSES OF DEATHS

(Registrar General's List)

List No.	*Causes*	*Male*	*Female*
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	—	2
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	4	—
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	2
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	4	3
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	4	3
18.	Coronary disease, angina	3	3
20.	Other heart disease	7	6
21.	Other circulatory disease	2	1
23.	Pneumonia	3	—
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	1
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	—	2
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	1	—
34.	All other accidents	—	3
	Total all Causes	29	26

TUBERCULOSIS

Total number on Register on 31st December, 1967 ... 21
Pulmonary ... 20 Non-pulmonary ... 1

Age Periods	New Cases—Diagnosed				New Cases—Transfers			
	Respiratory		Non-Res.		Respiratory		Non-Res.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
15	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
25	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
35	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
45	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
55	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
65 and upwards ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0

No action was found to be necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952, in connection with persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis employed in the milk trade or under section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, which deals with the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

(a) Laboratory Facilities

The following laboratory facilities have been available to this Authority and to General Practitioners in the area :-

Public Health Laboratory Service, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge (Tel. Cambridge 55526).

Public Analyst (S. Greenburgh, Ph.D., B.Sc., F.I.C.), Tenison Road (Tel. Cambridge 2097).

(b) Ambulance Services

Ambulances administered by the County Ambulance Service operating in conjunction with the County Fire Service, have been available on doctor's orders (Tel. Huntingdon 3348).

(c) Home Nursing

Nurse/Midwives employed and supervised by the Huntingdon and Peterborough County Council carried out home nursing and attended maternity cases in the Borough.

(d) Clinic and Treatment Centres

(i) The following services were provided by the Huntingdon and Peterborough County Council :-

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
Minor Ailments	Schoolchildren	Every Monday 9.30-10.30 a.m.	Child Health Centre Nursery Road Huntingdon
Infant Welfare	Children (0-5 years)	Every Friday 2-4 p.m. 1st and 3rd Wednesday in month 2-4 p.m.	Health Centre Ramsey Road St. Ives
Dental	Pre-School and Schoolchildren	Every Monday 9-12 noon and 1.30-4.30 p.m.	Health Centre Ramsey Road St. Ives
	Pre-natal and Nursing Mothers	Every Saturday 9-12 noon	Child Health Centre Nursery Road Huntingdon

(ii) The following Health Services were provided by the Regional Hospital Board :-

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
Chest	All ages	Every Thursday 10-12 noon	County Hospital Huntingdon
Venereal Disease	All cases	Tuesday 3-6.30 p.m. Thursday 4-6.30 p.m.	Addenbrooke's Hospital Cambridge
	Males	Monday 4.30-6.30 p.m. Tuesday 5.30-7 p.m.	Out-Patients' Department Memorial Hospital Peterborough
	Females and Children	Tuesday 10.30-12 noon Thursday 4.30-6.30 p.m.	
Orthopaedic	Pre-School and Schoolchildren	2nd and 4th Tuesday 10-12 noon and by appointment	Child Health Centre Nursery Road Huntingdon

(iii) The following service is provided under the Supplementary Ophthalmic Scheme of the National Health Service :-

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
Ophthalmic	Pre-School and Schoolchildren	By appointment	Child Health Centre Nursery Road Huntingdon

Medical, Surgical, Orthopaedic, Obstetrical, Paediatric, Gynaecological and dental Out-Patient Clinics are held at Huntingdon County Hospital and Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, to which General Practitioners can refer their patients for specialist investigation.

(e) Hospital Services

Fever Cases of Infectious Disease requiring hospital treatment were admitted to Isolation Hospitals at Cambridge, Peterborough and Ely.

General Hospital Services were provided by the County Hospital, Huntingdon and Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.

Maternity Cases were admitted to Maternity Unit, Primrose Lane, Huntingdon and Maternity Hospital, Mill Road, Cambridge.

Clinics run by the Family Planning Association are held at the Health Clinic, Nursery Road, Huntingdon every Wednesday evening 7–8 p.m. and at the Health Clinic, Almond Road, St. Neots every Tuesday evening 7–8 p.m.

REPORT OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

1. WATER SUPPLIES.

The situation with regard to both quantity and quality has again been very satisfactory, and no complaints have been received of any shortage or lack of pressure.

Consultations take place with the Water Company when plans for development are known so that there are no possibilities of development being held up on this account.

2. SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The whole of the Main Drainage Scheme has continued to operate satisfactorily, and problems which occurred have since been obviated.

One aspect, however, which has caused concern is the disposal of sludge. No farmers are keen to have the product on the land and the area of drying beds provided is inadequate. Temporary lagoons have been constructed, but again this seems inadequate to deal with the problem.

It appears that the decision not to accept the Consulting Engineers' proposals for the sludge treatment was false economy.

3. RIVERS AND STREAMS.

Works were carried out on two lengths of watercourse during the year.

4. PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The collection has again been satisfactorily carried out, although in my opinion the time is fast approaching when the Council should consider carrying out this service by its own vehicles and labour. It is possible that this could result in a back door collection.

5. SWIMMING POOLS.

Further consideration has been given to the provision of a swimming pool, and meetings have been held between the Education Authority, the Rural District Council and the Borough Council. The object of these meetings was to investigate the

possibility of incorporating a swimming pool in the new School buildings which could be used by the public and the cost apportioned between the three authorities.

The Borough Council did visit an adjoining town to see a swimming pool which had been constructed in a disused Cinema, but decided not to proceed with a similar venture in the Borough.

6. SHOPS ACTS.

No infringements were found during the year.

7. CARAVANS.

Site works necessary to enable the number of caravans to be increased on the Mobile Home Park were completed during the year, and additional vans were brought to the site.

The small sewage disposal works on the site was dismantled and all vans are now connected to the main sewers.

8. SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Three complaints of smoke nuisances were received and investigated. The nuisance was finally abated upon the service of informal notices.

9. BED BUGS.

No complaints were received of infestation by bed bugs, and no premises were found to be infested.

10. RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION.

Properties have again been inspected upon complaint, and poison supplied to tenants when requested. Eighty-six complaints were made.

The Council has decided that as from 1st January, 1968 a contract will be entered into with a specialist firm to treat the households and sewers.

11. PETROLEUM ACTS.

The number of licences issued during the year was as follows:-

Over 1,000 gallons	3
500 — 1,000 gallons	8
Under 500 gallons	10

12. ABATTOIR.

The extensions and alterations to the Abattoir were completed in June and it is now possible to deal with a considerably increased throughput.

A separate slaughterhall is provided for cattle, sheep and pigs. A deep freeze, additional hanging room, cutting room and loading bays are now provided.

13. NOISE ABATEMENT.

No complaints were received during the year which necessitated any action under the Noise Abatement Act.

14. PET ANIMALS ACT 1961.

Three shops have been licensed under the above Act.

15. MEAT INSPECTION.

During normal inspection a carcase was found to be affected with Anthrax. All necessary precautions were taken and the carcase burned.

INSPECTIONS UNDER FACTORIES ACTS

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6	11	20	Nil	Nil
(2) Section 7	39	50	Nil	Nil
Total	50	70	Nil	Nil

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) unsuitable or defective	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other Offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to Outwork).	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) ABATTOIR PARTICULARS.

	Beast	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
1962	885	2	1,500	3,157	5,544
1963	945	11	1,194	3,032	5,182
1964	1,143	80	7,952	4,874	14,049
1965	1,428	98	13,528	5,558	20,612
1966	2,321	115	11,805	7,076	21,317
1967	5,274	335	7,766	13,497	26,872

MEAT CONDEMNED AT ABATTOIR.

	Beef lbs.	Veal lbs.	Mutton lbs.	Pork lbs.	Total lbs.
1962	3,547	—	—	2,650	6,197
1963	4,246	—	—	2,001	6,247
1964	3,034	—	2,272½	3,565	8,871½
1965	4,825	104	1,805	4,290	11,024
1966	10,725	46	2,227	10,703	23,701
1967	26,930	387	652	12,205	40,174

MEAT AND ABATTOIR.

The following table shows the number of animals killed, carcases and offal inspected and condemned :-

	Cattle including Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs and Sows
Number killed	5,274	335	7,766	13,497
Number inspected	5,274	335	7,766	13,497
(All diseases except tuberculosis):-				
Whole carcases condemned	8	9	6	57
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1,441	—	79	873
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	27.47%	2.686%	1.094%	6.89%
(Tuberculosis only):-				
Whole Carcases condemned	2	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	—	—	27
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	.094%	—	—	.20%
Cysticercosis:-				
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	1	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—

(b) POULTRY INSPECTION.

Regular inspections were made at the local processing station and during the year 6,856 carcases were condemned as being unfit for human consumption.

The cooking of chickens has continued and the numbers increased.

(c) FOOD CONDEMNED IN SHOPS.

Corned Beef	1 cwt.	6 st.	13 lb.
Ham		1 st.	2½ lb.
Prunes		4 st.	
Luncheon Meat		6 st.	4 lb.
Cooked Ham		6 st.	12½ lb.
Grapefruit		2 st.	3½ lb.
Tinned Tomatoes		4 st.	5 lb.
Pineapples			13 lb.
Beetroot			6½ lb.
Tinned Ox Tongue			6 lb.
Grouse	12 birds.		

(d) LIQUID EGG.

No pasteurising of liquid egg is now carried out in the Borough.

(e) ICE CREAM.

Number on Register	...	13
Number of Inspections	...	34

(f) BAKEHOUSES.

There are no bakehouses in the Borough at present.

HOUSING

NEW HOUSES

The number of new houses erected during the year was as follows:-

Council	8
Private	84

OVERCROWDING.

No cases of overcrowding were reported during the year.

SLUM CLEARANCE

Number reported to be unfit for habitation	6
Number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was signed	4
Number of houses unfit where closing orders were made	1
Number purchased by agreement	1

GRANTS.

2 Applications were made for Standard Grants and 3 for Discretionary Grants, for the improvement of houses all of which were approved.

J. G. REESON

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector

The Ridley Press, St. Ives, Huntingdon